

Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 COME-00 STE-01 OC-06 CCO-00
PER-05 CA-01 /034 W
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R 241021Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6448
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMCONSUL FUKUOKA
AMCONSUL SAPPORO
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY MANILA
AMCONSUL NAHA
AMCONSUL OSAKA
USLO PEKING
AMEMBASSY SEOUL
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

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E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: ETRN, OTRA, JA
SUBJECT; NARITA AIRPORT OPENING

REF: STATE 060325

1. BASED ON PRESENT INFORMATION, SITUATION AT NARITA WITH
REGARD TO QUESTIONS RAISED REFTEL IS AS FOLLOWS FOR
ARRIVING PASSENGERS:

- A. CIQ. CIQ FOR ARRIVING PASSENGERS UNCHANGED FROM
PRESENT PROCEDURES AT HANEDA. NARITA WELL-MARKED WITH
SIGNS IN ENGLISH TO ASSIST INCOMING PASSENGERS MOVING
THROUGH CIQ. FOREIGN EXCHANGE FACILITIES LOCATED IN AREA
FOR PERSONS WHO HAVE NOT OBTAINED JAPANESE YEN BEFORE
ARRIVAL. JAPANESE CURRENCY IS REQUIRED FOR ALL PUBLIC
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TRANSPORTATION FARES.

- B. TRANSPORTATION TO CITY.
(I) AIRPORT TO TOKYO CITY AIR TERMINAL (TCAT) BUS. THIS
IS EXPRESS SERVICE FROM AIRPORT ARRIVAL TERMINAL TO TCAT
WITH FREQUENT DEPARTURES (BETWEEN EVERY 5 TO 30 MINUTES
AT FLIGHT ARRIVALS. ESTIMATED TIME 90 MINUTES, VARIABLE

DUE TO TRAFFIC CONDITIONS. FARE YEN 1900. CONNECTING BUS SERVICE AVAILABLE AT TCAT TO ALL MAJOR HOTELS AND TAXIES ARE READILY AVAILABLE.

(II) KEISEI LINE. NON-STOP SUPER EXPRESS SKYLINER SERVICE AND REGULARLY SCHEDULED EXPRESS AND LOCAL TRAIN SERVICE FROM KEISEI NEW AIRPORT STATION TO KEISEI UENO STATION; TRAVEL TIME BETWEEN 2 STATIONS IS 60, 75 AND 90 MINUTES RESPECTIVELY. BASIC TRAIN FARE IS YEN 550 WITH YEN 500 SURCHARGE FOR SKYLINER. SKYLINER DEPARTURES EVERY 30 MINUTES. PORTER SERVICE AVAILABLE AT BOTH STATIONS; CONNECTING BUS (YEN 60) AND TAXI (YEN 330) FROM PASSENGER TERMINAL TO KEISEI NEW AIRPORT STATION.

(III) JAPAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS (JNR). NARITA CITY STATION TO TOKYO STATION (SOBU LINE) AND NARITA CITY STATION TO UENO STATION (JOBAN LINE). TRAVEL TIME 75 TO 85 MINUTES, FARE YEN 520 PLUS SURCHARGE FOR EXPRESS SERVICE. CONNECTING BUS (30 MINUTES, YEN 220) AND TAXI (YEN 1,000) SERVICE FROM PASSENGER TERMINAL TO NARITA CITY STATION. EXPRESS BUS SERVICE IS AVAILABLE FROM TOKYO STATION TO TCAT AND CONNECTING BUSES TO MAJOR HOTELS; TAXIES READILY AVAILABLE AT BOTH TOKYO AND UENO STATIONS FOR ALL DESTINATIONS IN TOKYO.

(IV) TAXI SERVICE, ESTIMATED 100 MINUTES TO TOKYO, ESTI-
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MATED FARE YEN 11-12,000. LIMOUSINE SERVICE ESTIMATED FARE YEN 22,000.

- C. CONNECTIONS TO DOMESTIC FLIGHTS: THERE WILL BE FEEDER FLIGHTS FOR MAJOR CITIES WITHIN JAPAN TO AND FROM NARITA (APPROXIMATELY 2 PER DAY FOR EACH DESTINATION SCHEDULED AT PRESENT TIME). CONNECTION TIME REQUIRED FOR DOMESTIC FLIGHTS FROM HANEDA IS 270 MINUTES.

2. ARRANGEMENTS FOR DEPARTING PASSENGERS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

- A. AIRLINE FLIGHT AND BAGGAGE CHECK-IN FOR SOME AIRLINES CAN BE DONE AT TCAT; DIRECT EXPRESS BUS SERVICE AVAILABLE FROM TCAT TO AIRPORT FOR PERSONS HOLDING BOARDING TICKETS. ESTIMATED TIME 70 MINUTES, FARE YEN 1900. UNDERSTAND THERE WILL BE A CLOSING CHECK-IN TIME AT TCAT OF 2-1/2 HOURS PRIOR TO FLIGHT DEPARTURE TIME. AIRLINES HAVE NO PLANS HOLD PLANE DEPARTURES FOR LATE ARRIVING BUSES. NW CURRENTLY DOES NOT PLAN USE TCAT CHECK-IN SERVICE FOR AT LEAST FIRST 6 MONTHS; PANAM WILL USE THIS SERVICE.

- B. ALTERNATIVE MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION TO AIRPORT ARE SAME AS THOSE DESCRIBED IN PARA 1. PASSENGER USING ANY OF THESE MEANS WILL CHECK IN AT AIRPORT.

3. HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS AT AIRPORT. HOTELS AT AIRPORT INCLUDE HOLIDAY INN, 210 ROOMS, APRIL-MAY ALREADY 80PCT BOOKED. NARITA VIEW, 515 ROOMS, 80PCT BOOKED THROUGH MAY, 60PCT THROUGH JUNE. NARITA PRINCE, EXPECT TO OPEN MARCH 30. 321 ROOMS, ALREADY 70PCT BOOKED. NARITA NIKKO, 515 ROOMS, OPENS APRIL 1, ABOUT 50PCT BOOKED ALREADY. AIRPORT REST HOUSE, SOMETIMES CALLED INN, IN CITY OF NARITA, 210 ROOMS,

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INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

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RESERVATIONS THROUGH AIRLINES ONLY, OPENS APRIL 24. IT IS EMBASSY'S UNDERSTANDING THAT ROOM SITUATION WILL CONTINUE TO BE TIGHT; AIRLINES PLAN USE SOME ON REGULAR BASIS FOR CREW/AIRLINE OPERATIONS.

4. EMBASSY POLICY RE MEETING. REGRETFULLY EMBASSY AS A GENERAL POLICY WILL NOT MEET OFFICIAL VISITORS OR PROVIDE OFFICIAL TRANSPORTATION FOR PERSONS ARRIVING AT NARITA. FYI, ESTIMATED COST OF SENDING ONE OFFICIAL VEHICLE TO NARITA WITH CONTROL OFFICER (O-5/O-4 LEVEL) DURING PEAK ARRIVAL TIME OF U. S. CARRIERS FROM U. S. USING A CONSERVATIVE 5-HOUR TURNAROUND TIME FROM EMBASSY WOULD RUN \$110-\$120 PER TRIP. IN ACTUALITY, WHEN AIRPORT TRAFFIC

IS ADDED TO ALREADY CONGESTED SITUATION ON ROADS TO
AIRPORT WHICH ALSO INCIDENTALLY LEAD TO CHIBA BEACH AREA,
BELIEVE WE COULD EASILY SPEND 6-8 HOURS ON A ROUND TRIP.
5. SPECIAL MISSION AIRCRAFT WILL CONTINUE TO USE HANEDA.
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WE DO NOT ANTICIPATE ANY CHANGE IN OUR PRESENT PROCEDURES
FOR THESE ARRIVALS.

6. JAPANESE GOVERNMENT WILL HAVE OFFICE AT NARITA TO
HANDLE THEIR HIGH-LEVEL VISITS; FURTHER DETAILS ON THIS
WILL BE FURNISHED WHEN AVAILABLE.

7. ALTHOUGH AIRPORT OFFICIALLY OPENS ON MARCH 30,
FLIGHTS APRIL 1 THROUGH APRIL 3 WILL BE JAL. OTHER AIR-
LINES, INCLUDING NORTHWEST AND PANAM, WILL CONTINUE USE
HANEDA THROUGH APRIL 3 AND COMMENCE OPERATION IN AND OUT
OF NARITA ON APRIL 4. NORTHWEST 21 TO SEOUL FROM TOKYO
APRIL 4 IS EXCEPTION; IT WILL DEPART FROM HANEDA BUT ON
RETURN FLIGHT WILL LAND AT NARITA.

8. REQUIREMENT FOR JAPANESE VISA FOR ALL TRAVELERS SHOULD
BE STRICTLY OBSERVED FOR ALL PASSENGERS PLANNING ARRIVE AT
NARITA DURING EARLY WEEKS OF OPERATION. IT IS EMBASSY'S
UNDERSTANDING THAT THE 72 HOUR TEMPORARY PASS NORMALLY
ISSUED FOR OVERNIGHT STOPOVER MAY NOT BE POSSIBLE,
PARTICULARLY FOR THOSE PASSENGERS MAKING STOPOVERS
ARRIVING AT HANEDA ON OR BEFORE APRIL 3 WHO WILL SUBSE-
QUENTLY DEPART FROM NARITA.

9. DESPITE THE FACT THAT WE ARE NEARING THE OPENING DATE,
THERE ARE CONTINUING CHANGES IN PLANS. WE WILL ATTEMPT
TO KEEP YOU UP TO DATE ON DEVELOPMENTS UP TO AND AFTER
OPENING.

10. BROCHURES AND INFORMATIONAL MATERIAL ON THE AIRPORT
FACILITIES BEING POUCHED EA/EX. MANSFIELD

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Message Attributes

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Status: NATIVE
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TAGS: ETRN, OTRA, JA
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Type: TE
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